Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition for controlled drug delivery comprising a cephalosporin antibiotic and a combination of at least two carbomers, wherein said carbomers are present at a concentration from about [[0.1%]] 5% to about 50% by weight of the composition.

2. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 1 wherein said cephalosporin antibiotic is selected from the group consisting of cefdinir, cefditoren pivoxil, cefepime, cefixime, cefoperazone, cefotetan, cefpodoxime paroxetil, cefprozil, cefazidine, ceftibuten, ceftriaxone, cefuroxime axetil, cephalexin, cefaclor, cefadroxil, cefamandole, cefoxitin, cefalothin, moxalactum, cefapirin, ceftizoxime, cefonicid, cephadrine, loracarbef, cefetamet and pharmaceutically acceptable hydrates, salts or esters thereof.

3. (Original) The composition of claim 2 wherein said cephalosporin is cefprozil or its pharmaceutical acceptable hydrates, salts or esters.

4. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 3 wherein said ~~cefprozil or their pharmaceutical acceptable hydrates, salts or esters may be~~ cephalosporin is present in an amount from 100 mg to 1000 mg.

5. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 3 wherein said ~~cefprozil or their pharmaceutical acceptable hydrates, salts or ester may be~~ cephalosporin is present in an amount from about 30-90% w/w of the formulation.

6. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1 wherein said carbomers comprise a mixture of carbomer 971P and carbomer 974P.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim [[7]] 1, wherein said carbomers ~~are present at a concentration from about 5% to about 50% comprising~~ comprise carbomer 971P in an amount from about 0.1% to about 20% by weight and carbomer 974P in an amount from about 0.1% to about 30% by weight of the composition.

9. (Currently Amended) The ~~Composition~~ composition of claim 1 ~~which~~ further comprising ~~comprises~~ other pharmaceutically acceptable excipients selected ~~amongst~~ from the group consisting of water-soluble or water dispersible diluents and lubricants.

10. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 9 wherein said water-soluble diluent is selected from the group consisting of lactose, mannitol, glucose, sorbitol, maltose, dextrates, and dextrins.

11. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 10 wherein said water-soluble diluent is lactose.

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 9 wherein said water dispersible diluent is selected from ~~amongst~~ the group consisting of microcystalline cellulose, starch, pre-gelantinized starch, and magnesium aluminum silicates.

14. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 13 wherein said water dispersible diluent is microcrystalline cellulose.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 9 wherein said pharmaceutical excipient ~~is either one or a combination of~~ comprises at least one lubricant[[s]] at a concentration in the range of about 0.2% to 5% by weight of the composition.

17. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 9 wherein said lubricant is selected from the group consisting of talc, stearic acid, magnesium stearate, colloidal silicon dioxide, calcium stearate, zinc stearate, and hydrogenated vegetable oil.

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Currently Amended) A process for the preparation of the pharmaceutical composition comprising mixing together[[,]] a cephalosporin antibiotic, ~~or their~~ at least one pharmaceutically acceptable hydrate[[s]] thereof, or at least one of a salt[[s]] or ester[[s]] thereof; with a combination of at least two carbomers ~~and optionally, with one or more water soluble or water dispersible diluents and lubricants~~ to form the blend, and compressing the blend into tablets, wherein said carbomers are present at a concentration from about [[0.1%]] 5% to about 50% by weight of the composition.

20. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 19 wherein the blend ~~may be~~ is compacted into granules.

21. (Currently Amended) A controlled release composition of cephalosporin antibiotic comprising a pharmaceutically effective amount of cephalosporin antibiotic, combination of at least two carbomers, at least one of a water-soluble ~~and/~~or water dispersible diluent and pharmaceutically acceptable tablet excipients for controlling the release of cephalosporin antibiotic, wherein said carbomers are present at a concentration from about [[0.1%]] 5% to about 50% by weight of the controlled release composition.

22. (Currently Amended) A controlled release composition comprising a cephalosporin antibiotic and ~~a release controlling polymer wherein~~ a combination of at least two carbomers at a concentration ranging from 5% to 50% by weight of the compositon, the composition having a C_{max} [[is]] within 80-120% ~~substantially the same as that~~ of a single dose of an immediate release formulation.

23. (Original) A controlled release composition of claim 22 wherein the cephalosporin antibiotic is cefprozil.

24. (Currently Amended) A controlled release composition comprising a cephalosporin antibiotic and a ~~release-controlling polymer~~ combination of at least two carbomers which are present at a concentration from about 5% to about 50% by weight of the controlled release composition, wherein the T > MIC at 0.25 mcg/ml [[was]] is achieved for about 75% of the dosing interval and T > MIC of 2 mcg/ml [[was]] is achieved for almost 49% of the dosing interval.

25. (Original) A controlled release composition of claim 24 wherein the cephalosporin antibiotic is cefprozil.

26. (Currently Amended) A controlled release composition comprising from about 30 - 90 % w/w of cefprozil and from about [[0.1]] 5%-50 % by weight of at least two carbomers ~~and optionally one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients selected from amongst diluents and lubricants~~.

27. (Cancelled)

28. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 11 wherein said lactose amounts from about 5% to about 20% by weight of the formulation.

29. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 14 wherein said microcrystalline cellulose amounts from about 5% to about 20% by weight of the formulation.

30-31. (Cancelled)